GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2949
ANSWERED ON:03.08.2016
Rescue of Indians from Kuwait
Butta Smt. Renuka;Reddy Shri Y. S. Avinash

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has received any request recently for rescue of Indians sentenced to death due to their involvement in drug trafficking in Kuwait; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and the steps taken by the Ministry to save them and bring back to India?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]

(a) There are 17 Indian nationals in Kuwaiti jails, awarded death penalty after being convicted to serious crimes. 13 of these are on death row on charges of drug trafficking. Our Embassy in Kuwait has been regularly receiving requests from the family, friends and relatives of these Indian nationals for their early release from Kuwaiti jails. We have also received queries from Hon'ble Members of Parliament, Hon'ble Members of Legislative Assemblies and other dignitaries in this regard.

(b) Our Mission has taken up the matter with the Kuwaiti Government, requesting them to show mercy and commute their sentences to life imprisonment. India and Kuwait have signed an Agreement for the Transfer of Sentenced Persons, which came into force in April 2015. This however, does not provide for transfer of prisoners on death sentences.